

Claims

- [c1] 1. A brush seal, comprising:
 a bristle arrangement having a retention section;
 a pair of plates flanking said bristle arrangement and having a clamping section to frictionally engage said retention section;
 wherein said clamping section allows movement of said retention section before said plates are secured together and prevents movement of said retention section after said plates are secured together.
- [c2] 2. The brush seal of claim 1, wherein said clamping section comprises a channel.
- [c3] 3. The brush seal of claim 2, wherein said channel has a width corresponding to a width of said retention section and a length greater than a length of said retention section.
- [c4] 4. The brush seal of claim 2, wherein said channel is located on at least one of said plates.
- [c5] 5. The brush seal of claim 4, wherein said channel is located on both of said plates.
- [c6] 6. The brush seal of claim 1, wherein said bristle arrangement comprises a bristle ring.
- [c7] 7. A brush seal segment, comprising:
 a bristle arrangement having a retention section;
 a pair of plates flanking said bristle arrangement and having a clamping section to frictionally engage said retention section;
 wherein said clamping section allows movement of said retention section before said plates are secured together and prevents movement of said retention section after said plates are secured together.
- [c8] 8. The brush seal segment of claim 7, wherein said clamping section comprises a channel.

- [c9] 9. The brush seal segment of claim 8, wherein said channel has a width corresponding to a width of said retention section and a length greater than a length of said retention section.
- [c10] 10. The brush seal segment of claim 8, wherein said channel is located on at least one of said plates.
- [c11] 11. The brush seal segment of claim 10, wherein said channel is located on both of said plates.
- [c12] 12. The brush seal segment of claim 7, wherein said bristle arrangement comprises a bristle ring.
- [c13] 13. The brush seal segment of claim 7, wherein said brush seal is part of a packing ring.
- [c14] 14. The brush seal segment of claim 7, wherein said packing ring includes a labyrinth seal.
- [c15] 15. A method of assembling a brush seal, comprising the steps of:
providing a pair of plates and a bristle arrangement, said bristle arrangement locatable between said plates at a plurality of positions;
selectively locating said bristle arrangement at a desired one of said positions; and
securing said plates together to retain said bristle arrangement at said desired position.
- [c16] 16. The method of claim 15, wherein said securing step comprises removably securing said plates together.
- [c17] 17. The method of claim 15, wherein the method adjusts a clearance of said brush seal.
- [c18] 18. The method of claim 15, wherein the method adjusts a stiffness of said bristle arrangement.
- [c19] 19. The method of claim 15, wherein said bristle arrangement comprises a bristle ring.

[c20] 20. The method of claim 15, further comprising a step of loosening said plates to release a used bristle arrangement, said loosening step occur prior to said locating and securing steps, and wherein said locating and securing steps utilize a replacement bristle arrangement.